

Amendments to the claims.

Cancel claims 1 through 4. Please add the following new claims.

5. (new) A system for dampening vibrations transmitted from a surface over which a vehicle traverses, and the engine of said vehicle, said vehicle having a steering column being supported on a retainer connected to the body of said vehicle, operatively connected to a steering gear and having a steering wheel, comprising:

means for emitting suppressing vibrations, mounted on said steering column between said retainer and said steering wheel, and operatively connectable to a control means; and

means for sensing vibrations, mounted on said steering column between said vibration emitting means and said steering wheel, and operatively connectable to said control means.

6. (new) A system according to claim 5 wherein said suppression vibration emitting means comprises a piezoceramic actuator.

7. (new) A system according to claim 6 wherein said actuator includes at least two piezoceramic elements spaced about the periphery of said steering column and being firmly secured to the surface thereof.

8. (new) A system according to claim 6 wherein said actuator comprises a stack of piezo elements forming a longitudinal section of said steering column across the cross-section thereof.

9. (new) A system according to claim 5 including a control means operatively connected to said sensing means and said suppression vibration emitting means.

10. (new) A system according to claim 9 wherein said control means is operable to apply a signal to said actuator causing said actuator to vibrate at a frequency equal and opposite in phase to a sensed frequency.